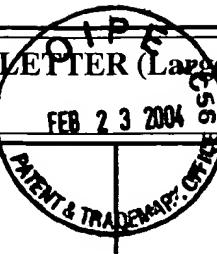


AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Large Entity)

Applicant(s):

Docket No.

17231A

Serial No.
09/924,641Filing Date
8/8/01Examiner
T. NguyenGroup Art Unit
2833

Invention: Improved Contact For Error Resistant Coupling Of Electrical Signals

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TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

MAR 01 2004

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED

	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	2 -	20 =	0	x \$18.00	\$0.00
INDEP. CLAIMS	2 -	3 =	0	x \$86.00	\$0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$0.00

- No additional fee is required for amendment.
- Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____.
- A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No.
- Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.
- Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.

Signature

Dated: 2/20/04

Michael Aronoff
Registration No. 37,770
The Whitaker Corporation
4550 New Linden Hill Road
Suite 140
Wilmington, DE 19808
Telephone: 633-2770

I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on February 20, 2004 with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence

Paula M. Capriglione

Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence

cc:



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Matter of the Application of: H. Herrmann, et al.

For: **Improved Contact for Error Resistant Coupling of Electrical Signals**

Serial No.: 09/924,641 Filed: August 8, 2001

Examiner: T. Nguyen Group Art Unit: 2833

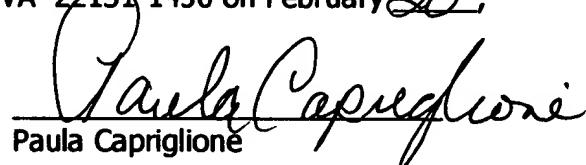
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MAR 01 2004

REPLY TO FIFTH (NON-FINAL) OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. BOX 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 20, 2004.



The signature is handwritten in black ink, appearing to read "Paula Capriglione". It is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "P" and "C".

Sir:

This Reply is in response to the fifth Office Action mailed October 28, 2003 (Paper No. 16) for the above identified application. This response is being filed within the first month after expiration of the three month shortened statutory period for response set in the Office Action. A separate petition and fee for a one month extension of time, which resets the deadline for response to March 1, 2004 (February 28, 2004 being a Saturday), is being filed concurrently with this response.

Charge any fee associated with this response and credit any overcharge to Deposit Account No. 23-1950.